STATE OF MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

FUR ANIMAL SEASONS FOR 1976-77

Regulations Adopted by
Montana Fish and Game Commission

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

TAKING OF FUR ANIMALS DURING THE OPEN SEASON BY ANY MEANS OTHER THAN TRAPPING OR SNARING IS PROHIBITED.

TRAPPING LICENSES: May be obtained through application to the following regional offices of the Department of Fish and Game by sending in your name, address, Conservation License number, and $10.00 fee:

Region 1 - 490 N. Meridian Road, Kalispell 59901
Region 2 - 3309 Brooks, Missoula 59801
Region 3 - Route 3, Box 274, Bozeman 59715
Region 4 - Route 4, Box 243, Great Falls 59401
Region 5 - 1125 Lake Elmo Drive, Billings 59101
Region 6 - Route 1 - 129, Glasgow 59230
Region 7 - Box 430, Miles City 59301

GENERAL TRAPPER'S LICENSE: Available to RESIDENTS only, $10.00 fee.
LANDOWNER'S TRAPPING LICENSE: (Includes beaver) Applicants must give legal description of land owned or leased, $1.00 fee.

NONRESIDENTS MAY TRAP PREDATORS WITHOUT A LICENSE.
TRAPPERS MUST OBTAIN PERMISSION OF LANDOWNER BEFORE TRAPPING ON PRIVATELY OWNED LAND.

TAGGING TRAPS: Any person trapping fur-bearing animals or predatory animals for their pelts shall fasten a metal tag to all such traps or snares bearing in legible English, the name and address of the trapper, except that no tag shall be required on traps or snares used by landowners trapping with permit on their own lands and irrigation ditch right-of-way contiguous to the land.

MARTEN SHIPPING PERMIT: Any person who desires to ship, take, or transport marten out of state in any manner, may obtain a free marten shipping permit from any regional office or State Game Warden.

POSSESSION OF LIVE FUR-BEARING ANIMALS: Live fur-bearing animals may not be possessed except under the provisions of fur farm or roadside zoo permit.

FUR DEALER'S LICENSE: Resident Fur Dealer - $10.00
Fur Dealer Agent - $10.00
Nonresident Fur Dealer - $50.00

FUR DEALER DEFINED: Any person or persons, firm, company or corporation engaging in carrying on, or conducting wholly or in part the business of buying or selling, trading, or dealing within the state of Montana, in the skins or pelts of any animal or animals, designated by the laws of Montana as fur-bearing or predatory animals, shall be deemed a fur dealer within the meaning of the Act. If such fur dealer resides in or if his or its principal place of business is within the state of Montana, he or it shall be deemed a resident fur dealer. All other fur dealers shall be deemed nonresident fur dealers.

DESTROYING BEAVER AND MUSKRAT HOUSES: It is unlawful for any person to willfully destroy, open or leave open, or partially destroy a house of muskrat or beaver, except that this shall not prohibit trapping in the house of muskrats when authorized by the Commission.

CLOSED TO TRAPPING: Portions of Little Willow, Big Willow, and Ford Creeks in Lewis and Clark County closed as posted. Also all National Parks, all National Wildlife Refuges, and all Indian allotted or tribal lands except as otherwise specified. Permits to trap on National Wildlife Refuges may be issued by the Refuge Manager. For trapping privileges on other than Blackfeet, Cheyenne, and Flathead Indian Reservations, see local agency in question.

ALL STATE GAME PRESERVES ARE OPEN TO TRAPPING

PLEASE NOTE: A number of fur-bearing animals have been ear tagged for scientific study. If one of these animals is captured, please notify the nearest game warden or regional office of the tag number or numbers and the locality of the capture.

It is suggested that all traps be checked at least once every 48 hours.

Trapping on Department of Fish and Game lands will be allowed by written authorization of the Area Manager or a Department employee on lands not having a resident manager.

Also, please note the law change on landowners being allowed to trap beaver on landowner's permit.

FUR ANIMAL SEASONS

MINK: Open Season: November 10, 1976, through December 31, 1976, inclusive.

MUSKRAT: Open Season: November 10, 1976, through April 30, 1977, inclusive. Traps may be set in muskrat houses provided the part removed is replaced after insertion of the trap; this also to be done after removal of the trap. It is unlawful for any person at any time to willfully destroy, leave open, or partially destroy any muskrat house.

MARTEN: Open Season: November 10, 1976, through February 28, 1977, inclusive. Marten pelts must be tagged by the game warden residing in the district where pelts were taken no later than twenty (20) days after closing of the open season.

OTTER: Open Season: November 10, 1976, through March 31, 1977, inclusive. Limit: Trappers may taken and possess only one (1) otter each per season.

CLOSED TO OTTER TRAPPING: The Yellowstone River from the Yellowstone Park boundary to the North Dakota state line. The Missouri River from Virgelle to the North Dakota state line.

FISHER: Closed

GENERAL BEAVER SEASON REGULATIONS: Owners and lessees of real estate being damaged by beaver may apply for a permit to trap beaver under other provisions of the law. Please see your local game warden for further information.

Open Season: November 10, 1976, through March 31, 1977, inclusive.

Permits: Only persons in possession of 1976-77 General Trapper's License may participate in a General Beaver Season.

Limit: West of Continental Divide: In the following counties or portions of counties lying west of the Continental Divide, the limit shall be 15 beaver per trapper: Deer Lodge, Granite, those portions of Lewis & Clark and Powell excluding the Flathead drainage, Lincoln, Mineral, that portion of Missoula lying south of the Swan-Clearwater Divide, Ravalli, and Sanders.

In the following counties or portion of counties lying west of the Continental Divide, the limit shall be 10 beaver per trapper: Flathead, Lake, those portions of Lewis & Clark and Powell lying within the Flathead River Drainage, and that portion of Missoula lying north of the Swan-Clearwater Divide.

East of Continental Divide: Unlimited

CLOSED TO BEAVER TRAPPING:

Beaverhead County: All Clark Canyon Game Management Area Lands.

Broadwater County: Those portions of Dry Creek, Confederate Gulch, White Gulch, and Avalanche Creek on public land. In addition, all Canyon Ferry Game Management Area lands.

Gallatin County: That portion of Gallatin County within the following described boundary: Beginning where the west boundary of Yellowstone National Park intercepts the Montana-Idaho state line, thence in a northerly direction along the National Park boundary to its intersection with the Madison-Gallatin Divide, thence in a westerly direction along said divide to the Madison-Gallatin County Line, thence south along said county line to its intersection with the Montana-Idaho line, thence in a southeasterly direction along said state line to its intersection with the Yellowstone National Park boundary, the point of beginning.

Lewis & Clark & Powell Counties: Entire East Fork of the Blackfoot River drainage. Landers Fork drainage above its confluence with Bighorn Creek.

Mineral County: Entire Fish Creek Drainage and entire St. Regis River drainage.

Phillips County: Those portions of Lodgepole, Beaver, and Camp Creeks on public land within the Little Rocky Mountains.

PLEASE NOTE

CANADA LYNX: Classified as nongame wildlife and may be taken year around except in the south fork of the Flathead River drainage, which is closed to lynx trapping.

BLACK-FOOTED FERRET: Protected and classified as an endangered species in Montana.

WOLVERINE: No license required. Classified as nongame wildlife. Closed to trapping: The entire south fork of the Flathead River drainage.

STATE FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

Wes Woodgerd

BY: WESLEY R. WOODGERD, SECRETARY
August 20, 1976

WOLVERINE ANNUAL RULE

The Department of Fish and Game participating in investigations on wolverine, a species of nongame wildlife, finds it necessary to promulgate the following rule as provided in Section 26-1804 and 26-1807, in order to develop biological and ecological data to determine management measures necessary for the wolverines' continued ability to sustain themselves successfully.

By order of the Montana Fish and Game Commission:

Wolverine taken alive must be reported within ten (10) days of the date of capture. The live wolverine must be kept at a reported location for a period of thirty (30) days during which time the wolverine shall be available for inspection and measurement, and such other data gathering as is necessary by Department of Fish and Game personnel.

Wolverine which are killed by any person must be reported to the nearest Department of Fish and Game employee within thirty (30) days of such taking. In addition, the hide must be presented for tagging and the entire carcass must be turned over to the Department of Fish and Game and shall remain the property of the state.

This rule shall be effective September 1, 1976, through August 31, 1977.

It is the intent of this rule that every wolverine killed or captured shall be reported to the Department of Fish and Game and made available for biological study as necessary to meet the requirements of the provisions of Section 26-1804.

STATE FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

Wes Woodgerd

BY: WESLEY R. WOODGERD, SECRETARY
August 20, 1976